

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-20 NIC-01 L-03 IO-15 AID-20 SAJ-01 ACDA-19

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5267

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,IN, CA

SUBJ: INDIAN PRESIDENT GIRI'S VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: BUCHAREST 3675

1. INDIAN PRESIDENT GIRI CONCLUDED FIVE-DAY STATE VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA OCTOBER 10. DURING HIS STAY GIRI VISITED PRAGUE, KARLOVY VARY, AND BRATISLAVA (WHERE HE RECEIVED HONRARY DEGREE FROM COMENIUS UNIVERSITY) AND MET WITH VIRTUALLY ALL OF PARTY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP INCLUDING HIS HOST, PRESIDENT SVOBODA, PARTY CHIEF HUSAK, CSSR PREMIER STROUGAL, SLOVAK PARTY LEADER LENART, SLOVAK COUNCIL CHAIRMAN KLOKOC AND SLOVAK PREMIER COLOTKA. HE HAD SEPARATE MEETING WITH KAREL HOFFMAN, CHAIRMAN OF TRADE MOVEMENT CENTRAL COUNCIL AND OTHER TRADE MOVEMENT OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE DISCUSSED HIS EXPERIENCES IN INDIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIAN AND CSSR TRADE UNIONS.

2. COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF VISIT FEATURED CALL BY
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BOTH PRESIDENTS FOR WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

COMMUNIQUE REVIEWED STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS (WITH WHICH BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED EXTREME SATISFACTION) AND DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (ISRAEL WAS BLAMED) FOR OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES IN MIDDLE EAST, ARAB STATES WERE PROMISED CONTINUED SUPPORT).

3. ALTHOUGH LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE TRANSPIRED, OR WAS EVIDENTLY MEANT TO, VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC DISPLAY OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. (IT FOLLOWED SIMILAR VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER GANDHI IN 1972). CZECH AND SLOVAKS ACCORDED GANDHI ALL OF CEREMONIAL NICETIES AVAILABLE AS WELL AS PROMINENT AND COMPLIMENTARY MEDIA COVERAGE OF ALL PARTS OF VISIT. PRESS EMPHASIZED CZECHOSLOVAK ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL HELP IN BUILDING INDIAN INDUSTRY AND NOTED THAT TRADE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES HAD GROWN TO ANNUAL TWO-WAY TOTAL OF 800 MILLION RUPEES IN 1972.
SHERER

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